NOTIFICATIONS

Sub: *Constitution of Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council*

Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations had, among other things, recommended that the Inter-State Council should consist of a General Body assisted by a smaller Standing Committee. The Inter-State Council, at its second meeting, held on 15.10.96, also recommended that there should be a Standing Committee of the Council for continuous consultation and processing of matters for the consideration of the Council.

2. The Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council is accordingly constituted comprising the following members:

1. Sh. Indrajit Gupta, Minister of Home Affairs—Chairman.
2. Sh. P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
3. Sh. Murasoli Maran, Minister of Industry.
4. Sh. Mulayam Singh Yadav, Minister of Defence.
5. Sh. S. R. Bommai, Minister of Human Resource Development.
6. Shri J. B. Patnaik, Chief Minister, Orissa.
7. Sh. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Chief Minister, Rajasthan.
8. Sh. Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister, West Bengal.
9. Sh. N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh.
10. Sh. Manohar Joshi, Chief Minister, Maharashtra.
11. Sh. P. K. Mahanta, Chief Minister, Assam.

3. The Standing Committee will:—

(i) have continuous consultation and process matters for consideration of the Council.

(ii) review and update the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission especially the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to State Governments.

(iii) examine the changes required in Article 356 of the Constitution.

(iv) consider the current views of the State Governments on 179 recommendations on which there was a consensus in the Sub-committee and also the 12 items on which there was no consensus.

(v) process all matters pertaining to Centre-State relations before they are taken up for consideration in the Inter-State Council.

(vi) monitor the implementation of decisions taken on the recommendations of the Council; and

(vii) consider any other matter referred to it by the Chairman/ Council.

4. The Standing Committee will submit its report on items (ii) and (iii) mentioned above within three months.

5. The Standing Committee may, if necessary invite experts and persons eminent in specific fields to have the benefit of their views while deliberating upon the related subjects.

Sd/-

(DR. R. K. NAYAK)

SECRETARY

INTER-STATE COUNCIL

Insurgency in the North-East

507. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the magnitude of the problem of insurgency in the North-East Region;

(b) the factors responsible for growing insurgency in the States of North-East Region; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Currently the States of Assam, Tripura,

Nagaland and Manipur are affected by insurgency. The other three States, viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram are by and large peaceful.

(b) Factors responsible for insurgency in the States of N.E. Region are complex and inter-linked. These include relative backwardness and remoteness of the region, large-scale unemployment and a perception of being neglected.

(c) In addition to several steps already taken, the Government proposes to strengthen the State Police Forces, further improve co-ordination of counter insurgency operations, sharing of intelligence, continue monitoring and review of the situation from time to time and also expedite economic development of the region.

Police Personnel in Illegal Liquor Business

508 SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn into the news-item captioned "winng and dining under watchful eyes of police" appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 26th December, 1996; and

(b) if so, the details and the reaction of Government to the involvement of the corrupt police personnel in this thriving illegal liquor business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been alleged in the report that the illicit trade in liquor is being carried out at some places in Delhi (Majnu Ka Tila and Yamuna Pusta) with the connivance of police personnel. This is not correct as the Delhi Police conduct raids as and when reports of illicit trade into liquor are received. During the years 1996 and 1997 (upto 31st January, 1997) 43 cases were registered and 44 persons were arrested from Majnu Ka Tila. Similarly, 58 cases were registered and 60 persons were arrested from Yamuna Pusta during the same period. If any police official is found to be involved in such illicit trade, appropriate action against him is taken. During 1996, departmental inquiry was initiated against three police personnel alleged to be involved in such illicit trade.

Unabated Influx Through Bangladesh Border

509. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the unabated influx across the Bangladesh border and Dhubri, the last Assam's border district has been virtually turned into an extention of Bangladesh and gateway for migration into Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the monthly migration of Bangladesh on an average;

(c) the reasons for unsuccessful checking of migrants into Dhubri stating the rise in the number of Bangladeshi migrants during the last one year; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The firgures of interception of Bangladeshi nationals in Assam sector by the Border Security Force as given below indicate a declining trend of illegal immigration in this sector:—

Year	Number
1992	2689
1993	1281
1994	1059
1995	1246
1996	791